White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders EPA Community Meeting

Oakland, CA June 21, 2000

Introductory remarks by Laura Yoshii, Deputy Regional Administrator for EPA Region 9: Laura give a background on Executive Order 13125 and explained EPA's need for AAPI outreach to make this Initiative successful. Welcome and opening remarks by Romulo Diaz, Jr., Assistant Administrator for Administration & Resource Management. EPA welcomes opportunities to continue to collaborate and network with AAPI communities to leverage resources.

Introductions:

- Diana Lee: California Department of Public Health; works with Laotian community, deals with exposures to toxics in fishing industry.
- Stephanie Kim: Asians and Pacific Islanders for Reproductive Health an Environmental Justice grantee, working with Laotian, Cambodian girls.
- Peggy Saika: Asian Pacific Environmental, participant in National Environmental Justice Advisory Council.
- Joselito Laudencia: Asian and Pacific Islanders Environmental Network, Exec Dir., Laotian organizing project to warn community about explosions, youth advocates at Richmond H.S.
- Pam Tau Lee: Asian and Pacific Islanders Environmental Network and Labor Occupational Health Program UC Berkeley, develops training for SW network for environmental and occupational health.
- Matt Vespa: Community's for a Better Environment. Center for Occupational Safety and Health, concerned about workers' exposure to chemicals that haven't been tested and regulated, works to create linkages between workers exposed in facilities and the home, part of Common Sense Initiative looking at getting computer industry to be more proactive re: TSCA, need to work with Agency to idenitify areas that need to be permitted for air emissions.
- Gordon: CPA, tenant organizing campaign focusing on housing conditions's in SF, tobacco campaign,
- Chris Hirano: Japanese Cultural Community Center, excited about Initiative and wants to see how
 his organization can get involved, is concerned with sustaining cultural communities, community
 development projects.
- Gene Chen: Chinatown Child Development Ctr, serve children under 14
- Fati Lua: Samoan Community Development Center, which has the mission to improve the quality of life for Samoans and PIs through self help, economic development and preservation of culture, with a focus on low income neighborhoods. His objective today is to bring resources and services to the community it's about time community got on the national agenda.
- Pheng Lo:
- Dan Maoua: Healthy House, a program to support community development projects that help kids after school, and to help the community learn about pesticides (grow strawberries in Ctrl Valley)
- Palee Maoa: Healthy House, help Center Valley community with refugees and translation for medical

- services.
- Johnny Lai: Los Angeles Project Office, working on obtaining more green space for urban AAPI communities, project in Oakland on fishermen.
- Jonathan Leong: Commissioner, Presidential Advisory Commission on AAPIs.
- Other EPA Attendees: Marla Hendriksson, Patricia Bowlin, Romel Pascual, Enrique Manzanilla, Patrick Chan, Willard Chin, Jackie Lane, Karen Nelson, and Laurice Jones.

Introduction of Romy by Laura Yoshii Romy:

- Gave a brief background on Executive Order 13125 and EPA response. Conveyed that sense of
 pride and appreciation for the EO having been issued in the community is clear. The EO is overdue.
 Coming to end of the Clinton Administration and there is a sense of urgency to develop parameters
 of the Initiative to institutionalize it quickly so we can move forward. The next Administration will
 build on it.
- EO has three objectives
 - improve quality of life;
 - increase opportunities to work on public-private partnerships; and
 - foster research and develop data on the community spurred by frustration with a lack of detailed data.
- EPA is developing a strategy for responding to this Initiative and to the community by holding a series of listening sessions. EPA is taking this seriously, and working proactively and in close coordination with regional offices because we need the on the ground folks to be here to continue this work.
- EPA has initially defined its approach to developing the strategy as a proactive approach with 4 pillars:
 - community partnerships;
 - economic opportunities;
 - education pipeline; and
 - workforce development.
- We need to hear from you the one or two things you want to see come out of this meeting today, so we can sustain this dialogue. We will establish an AAPI Web site to show we are serious about this long term it's a long term engagement and we fully intend this will set the stage for how we do this in a comprehensive, inclusive way for how EPA will respond to this Initiative. On behalf of Administrator Browner, thank you for coming today.
- Also want to welcome Jonathan Leong, one of the Presidential Advisory Commissioners of the White House Initiative on AAPIs.
- Now, I'm here to listen.

Romel Pascual: Demographic Overview

• General context of what region looks like – community very diverse. Passed out map of

- demographics.
- Hawaii has highest proportion of APIs, California next, Nevada is 6th ranked state for APIs.
- 7 counties in California have the highest proportion of APIs in the country (LA Long Beach highest).
- Most APIs in California live in Los Angeles, with pockets of communities formed for various reasons.
- Given the diversity of region, there also are diversity of issues. We must also keep in mind the rural community's issues (pesticides, threat of urban sprawl).

Items to take away from this meeting:

Diana: wants to hear about community piece, state works w/ community to explore what their needs are, need for disaggregation of data in research for these purposes – concerned with how 2000 Census will do this.

Stephanie Kim: wants to find out about other community experiences, what are the common struggles for environmental health issues, what are EPA's priorities.

Peggy Saika: we know and have access to Regional office, want to understand long term access issues around EO and Romy's role in the Initiative.

Joselito Laudencia: concerned with reality that the time line is short — what are the pieces for making this work.

Pam Tau Lee: the context in which EPA working to promote APIs does not have much interest in the top leadership of government – curious as to how this will be different, curious about a study in Detroit about long term cumulative exposures, which is a big concern among urban AAPI community's – what happened to it? The information it might shed on API exposures might be revealing. Deal with OSHA a lot, do not see much in terms of OSHA – hope your role on the Interagency group pushes OSHA to be more responsive. Interested in brown fields and making public health a key component in making decisions on how Brown fields will be used (gentrification and dot com people issues).

Matt Vespa: Interested in a commitment to have zero emissions in the Bay.

JoLani Hironaka: SCCOSH, what is role of OSHA in this? Is there a way for this Initiative to institutionalize the idea that there is no line drawn between environment and health? Is there a way to recognize that from an occupational health perspective, many workers are not part of a traditional labor structure there needs to be a pipeline for access to resources.

Gordon: interested in clarifying EPA's commitment to becoming more relevant to API community—want to see a real dialogue on this.

Chris Hirano: want to know what's happening in other communities and how to work together with them

to achieve the same goals.

Gene Chen: how can we enforce the commitment by grantees of providing culturally competent services to make sure the money has the impact on the community for which it was intended. Not just the need to translate, also issue of illiteracy in own languages.

Fati: Interested in a dialogue on how they can become a part of this community partnership and how that will help their mission in terms of serving the community. How can they access the available resources and how to avail themselves better of the existing services?

Feng Lo: Language barriers a problem, environmental issues are new to the people so the educational piece is important. Would like to see how the organization can work with local population on environmental health issues. Serves SE Asian pop, which has a language issue – communication the key. Community involvement with EPA and outreach to local API population was not done in the past and has to continue in long term. APIs have a passive culture – advocacy another factor. More doctors moving to central Valley – because of environmental health hazards.

Dan Maoa: here to learn from EPA what it has to offer in terms of the local environment and educating the community. Differences in cultures and political systems need to be understood by newly arrived immigrants – an issue of who to trust when the doctor tells them that they're sick from eating fish. Some growers are not aware of pesticides – need education on the risks and safe practices. Need EPA to establish a better link here.

Palee Maoa: Most people in central Valley are SE Asians – have more problems than others, especially with their medical aid. Would like EPA to do outreach there to see what community needs. Lack of understanding of medical issues (cultural traditions). Invite you to come to Ctrl Valley to bring health issues to table.

Johnny Lai: EPA needs to prioritize to make sure the environmental concerns of the community are being coordinated with EPA Brown fields projects and other projects – The projects need to be for the people and not business interests. Would like to see EPA have a written policy on when they are going to commit themselves to having translation services for participatory events – need meaningful community participation – affirmative outreach, translations services. Would like to see EPA commit to creative efforts to expand beyond what is traditional EPA work. EPA needs to listen to what the local community priorities are even if its outside the box of what EPA is doing.

Romy: Introduction of Jonathan Leong, member of PAC – represents the commitment from the top (the President).

Jonathan Leong: Born and raised in Oakland. Involved in community for awhile. Understands frustrations of language barriers. Thanks to EPA for doing this and showing its commitment because the Agency didn't have to hold this listening session. Experience with other agencies (SBA) not as good. EPA is the

only Agency to have a full time person working on the Initiative. The Commissioners are excited about doing something and will have a report to the President in 3 months. It is a plus for EPA to step forward and take the criticism and praise.

Peggy Saika: Good news and bad news. Good that EPA doing this but bad that other agencies are not stepping up to the plate. What is the Commission going to do about that?

Jonathan: We will hold agencies' feet to the fire and ensure they respond to the Initiative. Amazed at how far the Initiative has gone already. We have seen execution and commitment. The next step is to change the culture to make this work. The model minority has to change. It has to stop being passive and stop distrusting government. It's a joint effort. Each community must not only be out there for itself but for others. Each community needs to understand others. I challenge you to go beyond the community comfort zone, to be a part of something not specifically Asian to make your voice heard where it not usually is. We have to level the playing field and create parity. Everyone needs to know both sides of the story.

Romy:

Quick wins:

- What kind of top level commitment? How relevant is EPA? Issue of trust.
- This Initiative has the commitment of EPA Administrator Carol Browner, who has brought the Agency to a place and point in time where it is much more focused on community-based health concerns and the environment is associated with every day middle Americans. Our challenge is future relevance need EPA to be focused on the community as it is in 2100 need to get EPA on line for that today.
- We intend to send draft documents associated with our strategy. We want to continue to engage you in meeting our deadlines for the Initiative. By mid July will get information out to you.
- Intend to establish a Web site, and also would like to conduct an Internet conference to bring all of the information from other community fora together.
- Occupational health and safety I am responsible for it at EPA, and involved as a member of federal advisory committee. One of the things I'm doing re: the Latino community, which is similar in terms of public health needs, is hosting a Hemispheric forum on Latino health needs. I am committed to bringing these issues to OSHA Administrator and to seeking your input on whether a Hemispheric Forum on AAPI issues would be useful. We will share our report on this Initiative with other Agencies. We can't just rely on employees to handle this issue for the Agency. It's the Agency's responsible.

• EPA will develop a translation protocol, not limited to written materials but including media strategies.

Open dialogue:

Chris Hirano: What role can EPA play in spurring action by other agencies?

Laura Yoshii: In addition to national level opportunities, there are also opportunities at the regional level to bring together heads of federal agencies in the region. WHIAAPI put on the agenda. HHS active. I commit to try to facilitate that discussion with federal agencies—want to institutionalize something that's long term.

Peggy Saika: There is an opportunity in this region to bring federal agencies together and we must insist that they make the same kind of commitment that EPA has. There must be a strategic approach across the country and in this region.

Pam Tau Lee: Regarding educational pipeline, there is a proposal by the Region to bring together various experiences and communicate the environmental message to diverse Asian communities, to develop a network, to conduct the research that is relevant to the communities.

Diana: Research ideas need to emanate from the community. People are concerned more about everyday life existence not, about the "environment." We have to raise consciousness of these issues. There are already some models for doing this.

Romy: Regarding the educational area; I see a challenge and an opportunity. There is an opportunity, because we have a trust issue. One of the ways to establish better trust is by using community based institutions. Community colleges are trusted by communities. We need to develop strategic partnerships with them. The challenge is that unlike other minority communities there is no easily distinguished group of AAPI schools and it's not apparent where EPA can be supportive of their educational needs, given disparities within the community itself.

Pheng Lo: Community partnership – what does EPA intend by this? Information? Meetings? I'm looking for change, improvement. You need to be clear on what this partnership is. Be aware of the organizations EPA partners with to ensure long term partnerships and get the desired results. I would like to see a system that is more channeled through the local AAPI organizations. The language barrier is always an issue.

Romy: The purpose of community partnership is to engage the community in developing how EPA is going to be responsive to the needs of the community.

Enrique: EPA is not integrated internally – the challenge is to be responsive to the comprehensive needs of the community. EPA is making an effort to do that. It will be interesting to see if in their inventories, agencies list what they are doing by community. We have to start getting agencies to see that one plus one equals three (it's more than just air, water, toxics issues – it's the total impact on the community).

Laura Yoshii: We will provide contacts on the EJ team so that people don't have to search out the right people to reach to deal with the issues.

Diana: Request that attendees' addresses be provided to all. Communities need adequate funding to participate in participatory activities.

Laura: The movement is slow in budgeting resources to do these new and different things, i.e. direct grants to community based organizations. Need to let community based organizations know of the larger issues that EPA is dealing with that not only affect APIs, but the broader population. How do we get more Asian participation in these areas? How do we get information to you on other forums.

Jonathan Leong: Using example of business consultant, the information needs to go to the front lines of the community based organizations who know how to disseminate the information and get the people involved in setting policy. Decentralize, get finances and resources out to the edge where it's needed.

Romy Diaz: Automated systems will track the communities served by our grant programs. EPA will be the third federal agency to have the authority to voluntarily collect ethnic and racial data to see where our money is going and to create baseline so we know how we are doing.

Jonathan Leong: Data collection is important to create accountability. Changing cultures in a large environment is difficult and will take time.

Gordon: Regarding the community partnerships, you need to prioritize community capacity building – beyond translation and outreach, especially in the most disenfranchised sectors of the AAPI community. Our tobacco campaign in California was successful because of aggressive community capacity building. I like Environmental Justice small grants programs.

Matt Vespa: Concerned about enforcement. We also need to build community capacity to be a watchdog for enforcement.

Romy Diaz: There is compliance assistance effort in the enforcement program, but it's not widely known in the community, so outreach and communication is important here.

Gene: With new products in the market. I am concerned about their safety. What's going on in terms of regulating them. Is EPA involved in that? A lot of people in the community work in construction, garment industry, kitchens – what does EPA do to protect the home environment from hazards at work? Guidelines for housing exclude a lot of people who need assistance.

Stephanie Kim: Women and girls bear the brunt of these issues – would like to see EPA prioritize the health of women and girls. Also echo need to community capacity building.

JoLani Hironaka: Regarding the environmental risks at work brought home. The educational pipeline has to flow in both directions. We don't want a shifting of risks from environment to workers (from emission controls) – need to figure out where this is happening and proactively address it. Need to think holistically. Workers are exposing their homes to the hazards of the workplace by bringing work home with them (e.g. electronic assembly). End of the pipeline solutions have enforced the laws on behalf of the families, but its making the family the victim when family is just doing what it needs to survive economically – there needs to be education on the issue, too, not just enforcement.

Marla Hendriksson: There is a lack of awareness of the risks involved (what goes into the computer).

JoLani: An area for interagency cooperation is focusing on the home.

Pheng Lo: Regarding the educational pipeline, we need to fund local API educational outreach programs.

Dan Maoa: There is big potential for employment opportunities in strawberry growing for SE Asians who don't have any other skills. Need to look for other opportunities to get into this market, and we need help with making this connection. Can EPA help the community deliver its product to new markets? Can EPA facilitate business opportunities by working with other federal partners?

Enrique: US Department of Agriculture has a program.

Jonathan Leong: There are Web sites with international information.

Patricia: Maybe we can hear from Asian Pacific Environmental Network about experience with Environmental Justice small grants program. Want to mention grants and contracting opportunities.

Johnny Lai: Concern about educational pipeline – there aren't really AAPI educational institutions, but there are "sub institutions" that can be tapped into like Asian service centers at universities and colleges and can be used to target AAPIs to get them involved in environmental issues in their career. There are public policy and international affairs fellowships for masters programs in public policy, that help communities that don't have a lot of historical and family roots in public policy. AAPI parents can't imagine wanting to work for government. Subject specific fellowships or scholarships are an option. We should encourage people of color to go into environment policy/ urban planning studies.

Romy Diaz: The way of calculating family income is detrimental to families with several wage earners. Does this lead to a higher drop out rate in AAPI community than in other communities?

Jonathan Leong: In disadvantaged communities, there is a lower percent of people going to college, but they have a very low drop out rate. Information needs to be disseminated to the sub-populations that

need it.

Gene: We should be evaluating the standard used to set guidelines in terms of what kind of effect it has on the drop out rate. People don't have help to stay in school. Resource issues make it hard. Language skills are lacking among new immigrants. They are at risk of dropping out and need support adjust to school. Drop out rate for APIs has increased (not substantiated). Social programs that used to be available have been diminished because of lack of resources.

Peggy Saika: Regarding the educational pipeline – education in terms of impact on communities is another factor to be included. We have to look at what programs we have and where are the gaps. We have to rethink the paradigm to create one that is more reflective of who we are.

Joselito: Regarding community capacity building, we need to look at all of these different pieces and create a framework.

Fati: I'm concerned about the high drop out rate for High School students in Samoan and PI community. I have been working with students in Burbank High School. Most of our students are not accustomed to the culture in terms of what is provided in the school district curriculum and so they run into problems with teachers and administrators. Even the curriculum is not culturally sensitive. Students don't have the ambition to go to college after High School. I'm working to help students see beyond High School to get more PI and Samoan professionals out there. Maybe something to look at is to target scholarships to PIs or resources to provide support and incentives to the community so they are self sufficient.

Romy Diaz: The perception of EPA and other federal agencies is that, as a community overall, AAPI is in a good place as far as educational goes. We need to focus on keeping kids in school. When baby boomers retire – will have two Americans two support each pensioner. Need to make sure they have the skills to do it.

Marla: There is lack of role models and mentors.

Jonathan Leong: There is no shortage of role models. The problem is selling it.

Teng-Chung Wu: Chinese American Environmental Protection Association.

Johnny Lai: Regarding the educational pipeline, there is a distinction between a pipeline and the feeding of resources. Some communities do simply need education to get the skills to effectively participate in the economy. Other part of the issue is that many APIs don't have the cultural capital to go into public service. Pipeline has to involve that type of support for young people who are potentially interested in public service. We need to build the networks to support them.

JoLani: We need to help grassroots people develop the capacity to identify opportunities for environmental enforcement. There is an example of a local facility and worker injuries. A worker was

lowered into a container to shovel toxic waste. There is no record of the incident. This incident brought the problem to the forefront of community concern and led to authorities to find many other violations.

Pam: Regarding community capacity, there are principles of Environmental Justice movement – one is for community to be able to speak for itself. There are public transportation and air quality issues in San Francisco. Public transportation workers and the community who rely on it don't have the voice to express concerns about these issues. Can EPA facilitate some of that? Take Barrio Logan in San Diego, for example it uses EPA support to develop capacity in the community to develop health surveys. It is a good model. Barrio Logan developed community leaders and focused on women. It also had program in schools and with youth to teach them to educate others and advocate for themselves.

Romy: With Barrio Logan, the problem in San Diego was that air quality monitors were in the wrong place. Barrio Logan is an example of one of the first emerging brown-field site. The city made it worth owners while to voluntarily close down before it was found to present environmental health hazard. It is not just one community of color suffering – we have so many common areas of interest. There is a need for communities of color to work together in capacity building.

Jonathan: This is an example of why need to do the outreach on the edges to get the community groups that are in the middle of the fight or living in the area.

JoLani: We need to be careful about the notion of helping one community at the expense of others. Some programs in innovation or regulatory reform do harm where communities are disproportionately impacted or there is not a level playing field. W need to move people into jobs that are more economically sustainable and look to vo-tech schools to teach about the risks and the opportunities to go into other fields like public service and the environment.

Palee Maoa: Exposure to chemicals is not understood. It is important to pay someone to go house to house to tell them or show them how children's health is affected. I encourage you to read <u>The Spirit Catches You and Then You Fall Down</u> to understand the cultural challenges associated with health problems. I would like EPA to help with this, to guide the people to understand. At a local college, there is a course for interpreters, but there is not enough to get work with doctors to really make people understand.

Romy: I recently went on a fact finding trip to the US-Mexico border, where trained community workers, who live in the communities, educate the community on the opportunities to improve sanitation and reduce public health risk - a good model.

Laura Yoshii: The Environmental Justice small grant program is designed to do real community capacity building – to train and support the people who live in the community to do the education.

Teng-Chung: I came from hearing on dioxin, where many people of color testified, demanding more stringent requirements. Many minorities eat fish from the bay. APIs, to be able to have meaningful input

on issues like this, really need help – to be aware of the issues and to have the training to speak to them.

Laura: EPA is thinking a lot about how to engage different places, we have to get the right people at the table to have some debates and get the information out there. PBCT Initiative – looking for funding to support a local multi-stakeholder effort – and we need to make sure the Asian community is involved in this.

Teng-Chung: We have to make sure regulations are science based, and consider risk level that should be accepted by API community, who eat a lot of fish.

Patricia: We need capacity building in terms of educating people on how to participate in the public processes. There is a federal role in helping people become advocates for themselves.

Pam: There is long standing tension between the community and workers in the Environmental Justice movement. Closing an industry down can cause people to lose jobs. We need EPA to not allow industry to create this tension. We have been trying to build a bridge between workers in dangerous conditions with groups on the outside, which is difficult when industry doesn't let workers form those alliances.

Romy Diaz: It is false choice between the economy and the environment.

Remel: API culture is in contrast with traditional environmental active methods, We need to be mindful that issues are articulated in a way that builds these alliances. It is a challenge for the Agency.

Dan: I became a farmer and didn't understand or even know of all of the rules. I had to comply with. These things need to be taught. New immigrants need to understand how the economic system in US works.

Teng-Chung Wa: [Related story about an immigrant who didn't know he needed a license to fish.]

Laura: [Provided 1-800 EPA number for enforcement.] There are internship opportunities. We need to bring in people with more than just the technical expertise, but also with community based experience. [The Emergence of an American Dream referred to.]

Johnny: W need to bring the communities together to ensure that they're not fighting each other for the same resources.

Romy: The Agency has not done all it could in these areas. There is greater synergy that needs to be developed. We don't want these initiatives to serve as wedges between communities of color in the US to prevent them from moving forward together. We're starting to think more strategically and would like to work more with the President's Advisory Council to prevent the falsehood that this is a zero sum game.

Jonathan: With experience we have gained, is there anyway this can be passed on to other agencies?

Romy: I will send a letter to the Interagency group with information on Seattle meeting, and will make sure our federal partners get this information we gather.

Marla: We have found that different things work for different regions. It's not one size fits all. We'll share with the IWG what we've learned in setting up these meetings.

Gene: Regarding the Initiative's goal of improving participation of APIs in federal programs, my first take was that it meant people who are not already involved. The language barrier important. But its not just that we need more qualified people because there are qualified people out there, its that programs must be culturally sensitive. We need to recruit bilingual people into these areas – reach out to younger students. There has to be a direct link to the people we're working with.

Peggy: This meeting is interesting because it is an opportunity to have key decision makers here – EPA's leadership is appreciated. The information from this meeting is across the board, not just for EPA. It is key for our communities to be able to participate in these processes. We can't let other agencies off of the hook. A leadership vacuum exists in the other agencies. It is important not just for this initiative but because that is the way government is supposed to function.

Laura: No matter how much you share an experience – the other agencies have to experience it themselves so they will be motivated to try to help. EPA is happy to facilitate to make it easy for other agencies to participate.

Marla: There was a NEJAC meeting in May. Out of 450 attendees, there were only 5 Asians – They're always overshadowed by other communities. The community has a way to go to bring this to table.

Johnny: At a hearing last week, there were a lot of Environmental Justice groups from African American and Latino communities, but there was a noticeable absence of Asian community. Have to make the link between their problems and the environment – people don't see their problems as environmental problems.

Laura: Closing

• It is helpful to hear these comments regarding substantive and institutional challenges. We commit to follow-up on suggestions made, follow up conversations with suggestors. We would like more input from you, to maybe frame the topics of discussion for a meeting of other federal agency heads.

Romy: Closing

At the time I joined EPA two years ago, there was a study aimed at the kind of workforce we will
need to be successful in the future. The study makes clear that looking at a 2020 time frame, people

will want to make decisions at the lowest level possible – EPA needs to be prepared to do that.

- What we are all about is trying to make sure that we are prepared to do our job, to allow you to do your job.
- The 4 pillars make sense for this initiative, with some adjustments. I see the notion of community partnerships as important and the educational pipeline should not be so narrowly focused.
- EPA has a campaign that has just begun. It is essential that we have a strategy, to know where we're headed and to make sure that you know where we're headed and you agree that it's in the right direction. We intend to work with other government agencies, will talk to Kevin Thurm personally to make sure that we're not looking at this from our own narrow Agency perspective.
- Next steps: will produce minutes from the meeting. The intention is to have a draft strategy to circulate to you by end of July before getting it to WH. Want to see Internet conference to have real time interactive conversations about where the draft strategy is to make sure you are involved.
- Your challenge is to help us spread the word about what is being done, what can be done, and what needs to be done.
- I am aware of and believe in the notion that as public servants, we are accountable for producing the goods. The strategy is to let you know what we are committed to so that you can hold us accountable for it.
- Thank you on behalf of all of my EPA colleagues for what we have learned.

Jonathan: Thank you to EPA for holding these meetings and getting this info out. We don't want to let the opportunity drop. If there is any way the Commission can facilitate the carrying of EPA's efforts to other agencies, we will.